



COUNTY ESTIMATES

Barley – 2002 Crop

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Colorado's drought during the past two years continued to have an adverse impact on barley production in the state for the 2002 crop. Colorado producers harvested just 7,200,000 bushels of barley in 2002, down 16 percent from the previous year and the smallest crop since 1954. While much of the crop is irrigated, water shortages and prolonged hot, dry weather during the growing season limited yield potential. Many counties had very few, if any, reports of dryland acres harvested, making it very difficult to prepare county estimates for the 2002 crop. Data is not shown for some counties where less than 200 acres of barley were planted or harvested. Producers planted 85,000 acres in 2002, down 6 percent from 90,000 acres planted in 2001. The harvested area, at 72,000 acres, declined 10 percent from 80,000 acres harvested a year earlier. The state's average yield of 100.0 bushels per acre was 7.0 bushels below the previous year.

Rio Grande County maintained its rank as the leading barley producing area of the state by producing 1,895,000 bushels in 2002. The latest crop was 21 percent smaller than the 2,400,000 bushels produced in 2001, but still represented 26 percent of the state's total output of 7,200,000 bushels. Producers in Rio Grande County harvested 16,500 acres in 2002 compared with 19,000 acres the previous year, a decline of 13 percent. In addition, the average yield of 115.0 bushels per acre for 2002 was 11.5 bushels under the 2001 crop average of 126.5 bushels per acre.

Saguache County continued to be the second largest barley producing area of the state with a total production of 1,600,000 bushels in 2002, down 6 percent from the 1,700,000 bushels produced a year earlier. The 13,000 acres harvested in 2002 were down 7 percent from the previous year. However, the average yield of 123.0 bushels per acre was 1.5 bushels per acre above the average for the previous year's crop.

Weld County moved up to a third place ranking for the 2002 crop by producing 1,099,000 bushels, up 15 percent from the 953,000 bushels produced and a fourth place ranking in 2001. The harvested area of 14,200 acres increased 29 percent from the 11,000 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield for the county, at 77.5 bushels per acre, was 9.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 86.5 bushels per acre.

Alamosa County moved down into a fourth place ranking as its 2002 barley output of 1,050,000 bushels was 21 percent smaller than the 1,330,000 bushels produced the previous year. The harvested area of 9,000 acres was 2,000 acres less than a year earlier. Per acre yields in the county were also lower than the previous year, averaging 116.5 bushels for the 2002 crop compared with 121.0 bushels per acre from the 2001 crop.

Conejos County completed the listing of the top five barley producing counties in the state with a total production of 640,000 bushels in 2002. The latest crop was 31 percent below the previous year's output of 930,000 bushels. The harvested area of 6,000 acres was 2,000 acres below the previous year. Also, the average yield for the county, at 106.5 bushels per acre, was 10.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 116.5 bushels.

The top five producing counties accounted for 87 percent of the state's total barley crop of 7,200,000 bushels produced in 2002. There were only nine other counties that produced barley from more than 200 acres for the 2002 crop which accounted for the remaining 13 percent of the production. The other nine counties with the percent change in production from the previous year and the 2002 output were as follows: **Costilla County**, down 22 percent to 500,000 bushels; **Larimer County**, down 23 percent to 150,000 bushels; **Boulder County**, down 12 percent to 77,000 bushels; **Adams County**, up 88 percent to 60,000 bushels; **Montrose County**, down 65 percent to 43,000 bushels; **Morgan County**, up 25 percent to 25,000 bushels; **Prowers County**, none produced in 2001 to 25,000 bushels; **Delta County**, up 25 percent to 20,000 bushels; and **Routt County**, down 36 percent to 16,000 bushels.

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Agricultural Statisticians

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Barley: Acreage and production by county and district, Colorado, 2002										
County and District	Acreage planted	Irrigated			Non-Irrigated			Total		
		Acreage har-vested	Yield per acre	Pro-duction	Acreage har-vested	Yield per acre	Pro-duction	Acreage har-vested	Yield per acre	Pro-duction
	Acres	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	Bu.
Chaffee . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clear Creek .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eagle . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gilpin . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gunnison . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jackson . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lake . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moffat	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Park . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pitkin . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rio Blanco .	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Routt	1,300	...	...	...	1,000	16.0	16,000	1,000	16.0	16,000
Summit . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Teller . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NW & Mountain	1,900	...	...	...	1,000	16.0	16,000	1,000	16.0	16,000
Boulder	3,100	2,000	38.5	77,000	...	...	...	2,000	38.5	77,000
Jefferson . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Larimer	4,100	3,000	50.0	150,000	...	...	...	3,000	50.0	150,000
Logan . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Morgan	600	300	83.5	25,000	...	...	...	300	83.5	25,000
Sedgwick . .	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Weld	19,900	13,900	79.0	1,095,000	300	13.5	4,000	14,200	77.5	1,099,000
Northeast	28,000	19,200	70.0	1,347,000	300	13.5	4,000	19,500	69.5	1,351,000
Adams	2,700	1,100	52.5	58,000	200	10.0	2,000	1,300	46.0	60,000
Arapahoe . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cheyenne . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Denver . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Douglas . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Elbert . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
El Paso . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kiowa . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kit Carson . .	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lincoln . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phillips . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Washington .	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yuma . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
East Central	3,700	1,100	52.5	58,000	200	10.0	2,000	1,300	46.0	60,000
Archuleta . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delta	200	200	100.0	20,000	...	...	...	200	100.0	20,000
Dolores . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Garfield . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hinsdale . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
La Plata . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mesa	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Montezuma .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Montrose . . .	1,100	1,000	43.0	43,000	...	...	...	1,000	43.0	43,000
Ouray . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Juan . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Miguel .	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Southwest	1,900	1,200	52.5	63,000	...	...	...	1,200	52.5	63,000
Alamosa . . .	9,300	9,000	116.5	1,050,000	...	...	...	9,000	116.5	1,050,000
Conejos	6,200	6,000	106.5	640,000	...	...	...	6,000	106.5	640,000
Costilla	4,000	4,000	125.0	500,000	...	...	...	4,000	125.0	500,000
Mineral . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rio Grande .	16,500	16,500	115.0	1,895,000	...	...	...	16,500	115.0	1,895,000
Saguache . . .	13,000	13,000	123.0	1,600,000	...	...	...	13,000	123.0	1,600,000
San Luis Valley	49,000	48,500	117.0	5,685,000	...	...	...	48,500	117.0	5,685,000
Baca . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bent . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crowley . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Custer . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fremont . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Huerfano . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Las Animas .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Otero . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prowers	500	500	50.0	25,000	...	...	...	500	50.0	25,000
Pueblo . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Southeast	500	500	50.0	25,000	...	...	...	500	50.0	25,000
State Total	85,000	70,500	102.0	7,178,000	1,500	14.5	22,000	72,000	100.0	7,200,000